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ROGER OBATA FONDS

R9332

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Prepared in 2002 by Richard Doré and Myron Momryk for the Social and Cultural Archives Préparé en 2002 par Richard Doré et Myron Momryk pour les Archives sociales et culturelles

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Roger S. Obata

Roger Sachio Obata was born in Prince George, British Columbia on April 20, 1915 in a family of Japanese immigrants. In 1916-17, the family moved to Prince Rupert, British Columbia where Roger received his early education. He graduated from high school in 1933 and later that year enrolled at the University of British Columbia. He studied electrical engineering and graduated in 1937 with a degree of Bachelor of Applied Science. As a student he was involved in Japanese Canadian community affairs and in 1936 he was selected as a member of a delegation to Ottawa seeking the franchise. But he could not go due to final exams at the university. In 1936, he was elected President of the Japanese-Canadian Students' Club.

In 1938 he moved to Toronto and from 1939 until 1945 worked for several firms including Industrial Fine Castings Ltd. In 1945 he served in the Canadian Army Intelligence Corps and was posted to Washington D.C. where he was on loan to US Military Intelligence.

In 1946, he married Mary Ogawa in Washington D.C. After he was discharged from the Canadian Army, he returned to his former position at Industrial Fine Castings Ltd.

In 1947, Roger Obata was elected as the founding President of the first national Japanese Canadian organization in Canada called the National Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association. The main purpose of this association was to seek redress from the Canadian federal government for the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War. In 1980, the name of the organization was changed to the National Association of Japanese Canadians.

In 1956 Roger Obata started his own business in Montreal and opened a second plant in Brampton, Ontario. He sold his business in 1970 and semi-retired. He continued to provide consulting services.

In 1977 Roger Obata was the Chairman of the Japanese Canadian centennial celebrations. This event renewed the redress campaign which came to a conclusion on September 22,1988 when the Conservative government under Prime Minister Brian Mulroney granted redress after negotiations with the National Association of Japanese Canadians. For his fifty years of involvement in the Japanese Canadian community and his dedication to the redress campaign, Roger Obata was awarded the Order of Canada in 1990.

Roger Obata died on May 28, 2002 in Toronto.

Roger Obata Fonds

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Container	File	File Title	Date
		JAPANESE CANADIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (JCCA)	
1	1	Index of records	1953
1	2	Toronto Chapter, Constitution	1953,1986
1	3	History Committee, Meeting	1973
1	4	Conference	1976
1	5	Minutes	1976
1	6	Conference	1977
1	7	Vancouver, Correspondence	1979-1980
1	8	Conference	1979-1980
1	9	Conference	1980
1	10	Future organization	1980
1	11	Canadian Constitution - Input	1980
1	12	Canadian Constitution - Input	1980-1981
1	13	Ottawa Presentation on Constitution	1980-1981
1	14	Conference organization	1980
1	15	Projects for discussion in Vancouver	1980
1	16	Constitution for review in Vancouver	1980
1	17	Toronto Chapter - General Meeting	1986
1	18	Toronto Chapter - Questionnaire	1986

JAPANESE CANADIAN CENTENNIAL SOCIETY

2		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
1	19	JCCA - Conference, agenda and news releases	1948- 1953,1976
1	20	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1975-1977
1	21	Charter	1976
1	22	Charter Application	1976
1	23	Conference banquet programme, address	1976
1	24	National Conference, correspondence, agenda, reports	1976
1	25	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1976
1	26	Letters Patent and By-Law	1976
1	27	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1976-1977
1	28	Board of Directors, meetings	1977
1	29	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1977
1	30	Fund Raising Telethon	1977
2	1	National Office Report	1977
2	2	Press Kit	1977
2	3	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1977
2	4	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1977
2	5	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1977
2	6	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1977
2	7	Historical Photographic Exhibit	1977
2	8	Historical Photographic Exhibit	1977
2	9	Centennial Concert	1977
2	10	Redress Story - Information	1977-1978
2	11	Roger Obata - Personal Notes	1977
2	12	Roger Obata - Personal Notes	1977
2	13	Concert Finances	1977

R9332		Roger Obata fonds	3
Container	File	File Title	Date
2	14	Souvenir Book	1977-1978
2	15	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1977
2	16	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1977
2	17	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1977-1978
2	18	National Budget - Program	1977-1978
2	19	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1978
2	20	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1978
2	21	Correspondence, meeting, reports	1978-1987
2	22	Board of Directors Second Meeting - Minutes	1978
2	23	Conference	1978
2	24	National Office Report	1978
2	25	Financial Statement - Final Report	1978-1979, 1988
2	26	Post-Centennial Committee - News Release	1979
3	1	Final Report of the Centennial Committee	1979
3	2	National Executive Committee - Budget Statement	1979
3	3	Wind-Up, Correspondence, meetings, reports	1986-1987
3	4	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987
3	5	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987
3	6	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987-1988
3	7	Wind-Up, Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987
3	8	Letters Patent - Correspondence, meetings	1987
3	9	Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987-1988
3	10	Wind-Up, Correspondence, meetings, reports	1987-1988
3	11	Wind-Up, Correspondence, meetings, reports	1988

NATIONAL ADORI PROJECT

4		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
3	12	Canadian federal government - correspondence	1976-1978
3	13	Correspondence, grant application	1976
3	14	Correspondence, reports	1976
3	15	Correspondence, reports	1976
3	16	Correspondence, reports	1976-1977
3	17	Correspondence, reports, meetings	1976-1977
3	18	Budget	1976-1978
3	19	Correspondence, reports	1977
3	20	Access TV (Alberta)	1977-1979
3	21	Planning - Post-Centennial	1980
3	22	Nikka Festival Dancers - Ottawa performance	1977-1978
3	23	Nikka Festival Dancers - Sadayo	1977-1984
3	24	Nikka Festival Dancers - Videotape Editing	1976-1978
3	25	Nikka Festival Dancers - Videotape Editing	1978-1982
		NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPANESE CANADIANS	
4	1	Brief on Redress	1979-1984
4	2	National Cultural Program	1980
4	3	Pre-Conference Meeting on Redress	1983
4	4	Constitution	1983-1984
4	5	Council	1984
4	6	Lynn MacDonald-Election Campaign	1984
4	7	Redress -Meetings	1984
4	8	Redress - Negotiating Committee, Correspondence, meetings, reports	1984-1985
4	9	Redress	1984-1985

1986-1987

1986-1987

1986-1988

1986-1988

1987-1988

President's Committee - Meetings

Conference - Fund raising Report

Winnipeg - Correspondence

Conference - Correspondence

National Council - Redress - Meetings, Reports

Correspondence, post cards, meetings

Correspondence - Reports

Redress - Winnipeg

By-Laws, Constitution

Winnipeg Meeting

6		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
4	37	Emergencies Act Submission	1988
4	38	Regional Coordinator -Redress Implementation -Correspondence	1988-1989
4	39	Incorporation Documentation	1989
5	1	Leadership Campaign Conference	1989
5	2	Settlement Advisory Committee - Correspondence, meetings	1989
5	3	Settlement Advisory Committee - Council Meetings, Minutes, Correspondence, reports	1989
5	4	Settlement Advisory Committee -Projects, Correspondence, Meetings	1989
5	5	Correspondence	1989-1990
5	6	Intergenerational conference, Ottawa	1991
5	7	Edmonton Meeting - Homecoming'92	1991
5	8	Homecoming '92 - program	1992
5	9	National Office - Winnipeg - Report	1996
		TORONTO BRANCH, NAJC	
5	10	Redress Committee - Minutes	1983-1984
5	11	Correspondence - Meetings, Reports	1984
5	12	Correspondence, Meetings, Reports	1984
5	13	Membership Drive	1984
5	14	Redress, Correspondence, Meetings	1984-1985
5	15	Redress - Meeting on Update	1985
5	16	Correspondence, Meetings, Reports	1985
5	17	Toronto City Hall - Grant Issue	1985
5	18	Redress, Correspondence, meetings	1985-1986
5	19	Redress Campaign	1986

National Redress Committee - Transcript of teleconference on

dissolution

8		Roger Obata fonds	R933
Container	File	File Title	Date
6	9	All Party Resolution on Redress	1984
6	10	National Redress Council	1984
6	11	Correspondence, Meetings	1984-1985
6	12	Ernie Epp	1984-1985
6	13	Redress-General	1984-1985
6	14	Toronto, Correspondence, Meeting	1984-1985
6	15	Redress Negotiation Team -Meeting	1985
6	16	Fund Raising - Meeting	1985
6	17	Toronto Board of Education - Redress Conference	1985
6	18	Japanese American Citizens League	1985
6	19	Montreal Bulletin	1985
6	20	Conference, Correspondence, agenda, clippings	1985
6	21	Press Release, Correspondence	1985-1987
6	22	Correspondence, Meetings, Reports	1985-11987
6	23	Banquet, Tickets	1985
6	24	Briefs	1985
6	25	Redress - General	1985
6	26	Premier David Peterson on Redress	1986
6	27	National Coalition for Japanese Redress -Correspondence - Reports	1985-1988
6	28	Ottawa Redress Campaign, Correspondence	1986-1987
6	29	Meeting with Otto Jelinek and others	1986
6	30	Legal case - Mr.X vs Joy Kogawa	1986
6	31	Redress questionnaire	1986
6	32	Standing Committee on Multiculturalism - Correspondence	1986
6	33	War Amps Issue on Redress	1986
6	34	Roger Obata - Notes on Redress	1987
6	35	National Coalition on Japanese Redress - Correspondence	1987-1988

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture - Redress Campaign

10		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
7	18	Sam Nishiyama	1986
7	19	Yuki Mizuyabu	1986
7	20	David Crombie	1986-1987
7	21	Dalton Camp	1986
7	22	"We went to War"	1987
7	23	Maryka Omatsu	1988
7	24	Alan Redway	1988
7	25	General	1988-1990
7	26	Ernie Epp	1988-1989
7	27	Ontario Provincial Government on Elderly Exemption	1989
7	28	Seniors Conference - Calgary	1989
7	29	Nikkei Voice	1989
7	30	Nikkei Voice	1989
7	31	Nikkei Voice	1989
7	32	General	1990-1996
7	33	Edy Goto	1991
7	34	General	1996-1998
		REPORTS AND OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION	
8	1	Takaichi Umezuki Biography	1977
8	2	Report - The Importance of Creating Favorable Public Opinion concerning Redress for Japanese Canadians	1984
8	3	Tony Nabata - Reports	1984
8	4	Demographic Survey	1985
8	5	Economic Losses Survey	1985
8	6	Japanese Canadian Economic Losses Survey	1986
8	7	Demographic Surveys -	1986

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Container	File	File Title	Date
0	0	NULL NATE.	1007
8	8	Nikkei Voice	1987
8	9	Emergency Act	1987
8	10	Field Worker Briefing	1988
8	11	Takao Tanabe Print	1988
8	12	London -St.Catherines Mailing List	1988
8	13	Ideas to Consider	1988
8	14	Mary Obata - Faces of Redress: Viode Oral History	1989
8	15	Roger Obata - Faces of Redress: Video Oral History	1989
8	16	Kokoro Dance	1989
8	17	Japanese Canadian Community Development Program	1989
8	18	Harry Yonekura - Reports on Redress Implementation	1989
8	19	Japanese Canadian Redress Foundation - Redress Application Forms	1989
8	20	Nikkei Voice - Managing Editors Employment Contract	1989
		JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE	
8	21	National Cultural Program	1979-1980
8	22	Symposium '91 -Roger Obata Speech	1991
8	23	Annual General Meeting	1991
		ETHNOCULTURAL AND CULTURAL COMMUNITIES	
8	24	Constitutional Accord - Multiculturalism Government Bills	1987
8	25	Canadian Hispanic Congress - TV Series	1987
8	26	Ethnocultural Rally	1987
8	27	Ethnic Support for National Coalition	1987-1988
8	28	Ethnocultural Political Action Committee	1988

12		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
8	29	Chinese Head Tax	1988
8	30	A Public Forum on Redress for Japanese Canadians - What's fair	1988
8	31	Bill C-63	1990
8	32	Earth Spirit Festival, Correspondence, Report	1990
8	33	Earth Spirit Festival	1991
8	34	Earth Spirit Festival	1991
8	35	Earth Spirit Festival, Correspondence	1991-1993
8	36	Earth Spirit Festival, Fund raising	1991
8	37	Canadian Ethnocultural Council - Seniors Committee	1990-1991
8	38	First Nations Treaty Claims	1989
8	39	First Nations Treaty Claims	1989
8	40	Native peoples - Japanese Concerns	1989
8	41	Native Rights Revolution	1990
8	42	National Congress of Italian Canadians - remarks	n.d.
8	43	Ukrainian Redress	1991
8	44	Ukrainian Canadian Congress	1993
8	45	Race Relations Foundation	1989
8	46	Canadian Race Relations Foundation	1991
		THE TORONTO REDRESS STORY	
9	1	Letters and Biographies sent to Roy Ito	1984-1998
9	2	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1987-1993
9	3	Unsung Heroes of Redress	1992
9	4	Taping Session, Correspondence, meetings	1993
9	5	Taping Session, Correspondence, meetings	1993

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Container	File	File Title	Date
9	6	Taping Session, Correspondence, meetings	1993
9	7	Transcriptions - Correspondence	1993
9	8	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1993-1994
9	9	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1994-1995
9	10	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1995-1996
9	11	Drafts	1995
9	12	Drafts - Chapter 1-3b	1995
9	13	Drafts	1995-1996
9	14	Review of Draft Chapters	1995-1996
9	15	Review of Draft Chapters	1996
9	16	Drafts	1997
9	17	Drafts - Corrections	1997
9	18	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1997
9	19	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1997
9	20	Correspondence	1997
9	21	Correspondence	1997
9	22	Preface draft	1997
9	23	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1997-1998
9	24	Irene Uchida - Correspondence	1997-1998

1997-1999

1997-1999

Shirley Yamada - Correspondence

Acknowledgement - Introduction -Draft

Harry's Chapter 2

Chapter 7,8- Drafts

Chapter 9,Draft

Chapter 10 - Draft

Chapter 11 - Draft

14		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
10	8	Chapter 12,13 Drafts	1998
10	9	Chapter 14 - Draft	1998
10	10	Chapter 17 - Draft	1998
10	11	Chapter18 - Draft	1998
10	12	Chapter 21 - Draft	1998
10	13	Chapter 22,23 Drafts	1998
10	14	Correspondence relating to Terre Watada	1998-1999
10	15	Letter and biographies sent to Roy Ito	1998
10	16	Corrections	1998
10	17	Corrections	1998
10	18	Draft	1998
10	19	Draft	1998
10	20	Draft	1998
10	21	Chapters 1,3,5 Drafts	1998
10	22	Appendix - Draft	1998
10	23	Chapters 8,11 - Draft	1998
10	24	Chapter 13	1998
10	25	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	1998
10	26	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	1998
10	27	Correspondence, drafts	1998
10	28	Donna Takayesu -Correspondence	1998
10	29	Roger Obata Copy of corrected manuscript	1998
11	1	Drafts - Correspondence - Meetings	1998-1999
11	2	Chapters 13-16, drafts	1998-1999
11	3	Joy Kogawa - Correspondence	1998-2000
11	4	Kris Kurata - Correspondence	1999

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Container	File	File Title	Date
11	5	Yuki Mizuyabu's original Chapter 6	1999
11	6	Edited Chapters from Momoye Sugiman	1999
11	7	Terry Watada - Drafts - Funding Request	1999
11	8	Drafts - Chapter 2	1999
11	9	Drafts -Chapter 3	1999
11	10	Drafts - Chapter 3c-3b	1999
11	11	Drafts - Chapter 4	1999
11	12	Drafts - Chapter 5	1999
11	13	Drafts -Chapters 5,13,16,17	1999
11	14	Drafts -Chapters 6-7	1999
11	15	Drafts - Chapter 8	1999
11	16	Drafts - Chapter 9	1999
11	17	Drafts- Chapter 10	1999
11	18	Drafts -Chapter 11	1999
11	19	Drafts - Chapters 12-17	1999
11	20	Drafts - Chapter 14	1999
11	21	Drafts - Chapter 15	1999
11	22	Drafts - Chapters 15-22	1999
11	23	Drafts - Chapter 16	1999
11	24	Drafts - Chapter16	1999
11	25	Drafts - Chapter17	1999
12	1	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	1999
12	2	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	1999
12	3	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	1999-2000
12	4	Bill and Rose Kobayashi - Correspondence	1999-2000
12	5	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	2000

16		Roger Obata fonds	R9332
Container	File	File Title	Date
12	6	Drafts, correspondence, meetings	2000
12	7	Final changes to manuscript	2000
12	8		2000
12	0	Final Corrections to Blue Book - Yuki Mizuyabu's rewrite - meetings	2000
12	9	Biography of Norm Oikawa	2000
		JAPANESE CANADIAN REDRESS - NEWS CLIPPINGS AND RELATED MATERIAL	
12	10	Clippings	1942-1983
12	11	Clippings	1983
12	12	Clippings	1983
12	13	Clippings	1983-1984
12	14	Clippings	1984
12	15	Clippings	1984
12	16	Clippings	1984
12	17	Clippings	1984
12	18	Clippings	1984
12	19	Clippings	1984
13	1	Clippings	1984
13	2	Clippings	1984
13	3	Clippings	1985
13	4	Clippings	1985
13	5	Clippings	1985
13	6	Clippings	1985
13	7	Clippings	1985
13	8	Clippings	1985

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Containe	r File	File Title	Date
13	9	Clippings	1985
13	10	Clippings	1985
13	11	Clippings	1985
13	12	Clippings	1985
13	13	Clippings	1985
13	14	Clippings	1986
13	15	Clippings	1986
13	16	Clippings	1986
13	17	Clippings	1986
13	18	Clippings	1986
13	19	Clippings	1986
14	1	Clippings	1986
14	2	Clippings	1987
14	3	Clippings	1987
14	4	Clippings	1987
14	5	Clippings	1987
14	6	Clippings	1987
14	7	Clippings	1987
14	8	Clippings	1988
14	9	Clippings	1988
14	10	Clippings	1988
		MISCELLANEOUS NEWS CLIPPINGS, PUBLICATIONS AND RELATED MATERIAL	
14	11	Japanese Canadian Centennial Society	1977-1979
14	12	Japanese American Citizens League - Reparations	1978-1979

18		Roger Obata fonds	R9332	
Container	File	File Title	Date	
14	13	Japanese American Citizens League - Reparations	1980-1981	
14	14	"Threat to Basic Rights" - Toronto Star	1980	
14	15	US Redress	1981-1982	
14	16	Redress	1983	
14	17	Redress	1983	
15	1	Redress	1983	
15	2	Redress	1983-1984	
15	3	Redress	1984-1986	
15	4	National Association of Japanese Canadians -Articles (Photocopies)	1985	
15	5	War Veterans and Redress	1985	
15	6	Redress	1985	
15	7	Japanese Canadian National Redress Association of Survivors - News Release	1985	
15	8	Redress Campaign - Survey	1985-1986	
15	9	Redress	1986-1989	
15	10	Redress	1987	
15	11	Ukrainian Canadian Redress	1987-1988	
15	12	US - Canadian Redress	1989	
15	13	Earth Spirit Festival	1990	
15	14	Japanese Canadian Centennial - Calendar	1977	
15	15	The New Canadian (Newspaper)	1976-1977	
15	16	The New Canadian (Newspaper)	1977-1978	
15	17	Presentation to the Parliamentary Commission on the Constitution by Roger Obata	1980	
15	18	The Rafu Shimpo (Newspaper)	1983	
15	19	Proposal for Determination of Economic Losses Incurred by Japanese Canadian Community after December, 1941	1985	
15	20	NAJC Newsletter	1985-1986	

R9332		Roger Obata fonds	19	
Container	File	File Title	Date	
15	21	Economic Losses of Japanese Canadians after 1941	1986	
15	22	NAJC Newsletter	1987	
15	23	Nikkei Voice	1988-1989	